



00862.023377

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
KENJI YAMAGATA, ET AL.) : Examiner: Unassigned
Application No.: 10/733,361) : Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Filed: December 12, 2003) :
For: PROCESSING APPARATUS FOR)
PROCESSING SUBSTRATE BY) :
PROCESS SOLUTION) April 19, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the Japanese documents are enclosed.

The Japanese documents are discussed at pages 1 and 2 of the specification, and English-language abstracts for the Japanese documents are enclosed.

U.S. Patent No. 5,371,037 is believed to be an English-language counterpart of Japan 5-21338; U.S. Patent No. 5,767,020 an English-language counterpart of Japan 6-342784; U.S. Patent No. 6,103,598 an English-language counterpart of Japan 9-92803; U.S. Patent No.

6,337,030 an English-language counterpart of Japan 10-223585; U.S. Patent No. 6,199,563 an English-language counterpart of Japan 10-242102; and U.S. Patent No. 6,127,281 an English-language counterpart of Japan 11-204494.

FORMAL MATTERS

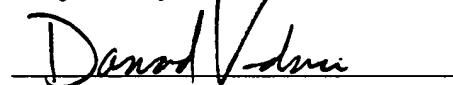
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), since a first Office Action on the merits of the subject application has not yet been issued, neither a statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) nor payment of a fee is believed to be required for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee which may be required in connection with this paper to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. A duplicate of this paper is enclosed for that purpose.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT
(Use several sheets if necessary)

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FILING DATE

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GROUP

Unassigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		6,156,624	12/05/2000	Yamagata et al.	438	459	
		6,190,937 B1	02/20/2001	Nakagawa et al.	438	67	
		6,221,738 B1	04/24/2001	Sakaguchi et al.	438	455	
		6,569,748 B1	05/27/2003	Sakaguchi et al.	438	455	
		6,382,292 B1	05/07/2002	Ohmi et al.	156	584	
		6,475,323 B1	11/05/2002	Ohmi et al.	156	239	
		6,143,628	11/07/2000	Sato et al.	438	455	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		5-21338	1/29/1993	Japan			Abstract
		10-223585	8/21/1998	Japan			Abstract
		10-229066	8/25/1998	Japan			Abstract
		10-242102	9/11/1998	Japan			Abstract
		10-242103	9/11/1998	Japan			Abstract
		6-342784	12/13/1994	Japan			Abstract
		9-92803	4/4/1997	Japan			Abstract
		11-204494	7/30/1999	Japan			Abstract
		11-204495	7/30/1999	Japan			Abstract
		2000-133632	5/12/2000	Japan			Abstract

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	6,258,698 B1	07/10/2001	Iwasaki et al.	438	455	
	6,306,729 B1	10/23/2001	Sakaguchi et al.	438	458	
	6,429,095 B1	08/06/2002	Sakaguchi et al.	438	458	
	6,342,433 B1	01/29/2002	Ohmi et al.	438	455	
	6,597,039 B2	07/22/2003	Ohmi et al.	257	347	
	6,331,208 B1	12/18/2001	Nishida et al.	117	89	
	6,613,678 B1	09/02/2003	Sakaguchi et al.	438	695	
	6,391,743 B1	05/21/2002	Iwane et al.	438	458	
	6,664,169 B1	12/16/2003	Iwasaki et al.	438	409	
	6,452,091 B1	09/17/2002	Nakagawa et al.	136	261	
	6,653,209 B1	11/25/2003	Yamagata	438	459	
	6,566,235 B2	05/20/2003	Nishida et al.	438	458	
	6,211,038 B1	04/03/2001	Nakagawa et al.	438	409	
	6,677,183 B2	01/13/2004	Sakaguchi et al.	438	113	
	5,371,037	12/06/1994	Yonehara	437	86	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

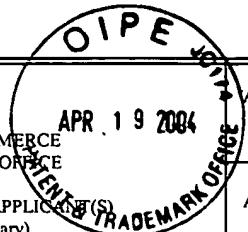
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
	2000-133558	5/12/2000	Japan			Abstract

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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FORM PTO 1449 (modified)

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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